

André Bauer Lieutenant Governor

## State of South Carolina Office of The Lieutenant Governor



POST OFFICE BOX 142
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29202

January 25, 2007

2005-13W/s

Mr. Charles Terreni Public Service Commission Fost Office Box 11649 Columbia, SC 29211

Dear Charles,

I have been contacted by the Wyboo Plantation Owners' Association in regards to a requested rate increase by Wyboo Plantation Utilities, Inc. on water and sewer services for the residents in that area. Their concern is that there will be a 300% increase in the water and sewer rates for seniors in the Wyboo Plantation Community in Manning as well as a neighboring mobile home park in Sumter.

Because these communities are made up of mostly seniors living on a fixed income basis, a 300% increase would greatly affect these members in a negative manner. I believe water and sewer services are extremely important and know that they are not free. But, I also believe people should be charged a <u>reasonable</u> fee for such services. I strongly urge the Commission to approve only a marginal increase in rates if an increase is truly justified.

As Lieutenant Governor, I am charged with the task of protecting the interests of seniors through my Office on Aging. It is under this mandate that I ask the Commission to do whatever possible to ensure that the senior population of these communities is protected.

Please feel free to contact Mike Easterday, my Chief of Staff and Director of the Office on Aging, at (803) 734-2080 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

André Bauer

Lieutenant Governor

cc: Representative Cathy B. Harvin